

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 053329

FOL REPEAT GENEVA 1669 ACTION SECSTATE INFO TELEVIA GENEVA 4 MAR.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1660

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ILO IS AORG

SUBJECT: ILO: DIRECTOR GENERAL'S FOLLOW-UP TO 59TH CONFERENCE
RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ISRAEL

REF* STATE 49967

. US REP HOROWITZ AND AMBASSADOR MAINTAINING CLOSE CONTACT
WITH ISRAELI AMBASSADOR RONN OF TACTICS FOR HANDLING DIRECTOR
GENERAL'S "PROGRESS REPORT ON STUDY OF THE SITUATION OF
WORKERS IN TERRITORIES OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL (GB 199/20/11).
IN CONVERSATION MARCH 3 AMBASSADOR INFORMED RONN OF DIFFICULTY
WE ARE ENCOUNTERING AMONG FRIENDLY DELEGATIONS IN SEEKING
SUPPORT TO BRING HALT TO PROCESS WE REGARD AS OUTSIDE PRESCRIBED
PROCEDURES AND IN VIOLATION OF DUE PROCESS. UK, ESPECIALLY,
IS RESISTANT TO OUR EFFORT, ARGUING THAT THIS IS WRONG ISSUE
ON WHICH TO STAND AND WRONG TIME TO STAND ON ISSUE IN ANY
EVENT. WE HAVE EXPLAINED TO RONN THAT WE ARE PURSUING EFFORT
NEVERTHELESS TO TRY TO FIND A VOICE AMONG EC9 PREPARED TO
SPEAK UP (AND HOPEFULL FOR EC9) IN SUPPORT OF A US STATEMENT
POINTING TO ILLEGAL NATURE OF THIS PROCESS. OR AT MINIMUM
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TO GO ON RECORD TO EFFECT THAT ACQUIESCENCE IN PROCESS WHICH

HAS BEEN INITIATED IS NOT TO BE REGARDED AS ACQUIESCENCE IN ESTABLISHMENT OF PRECEDENT.

2. ASKED FOR HIS BEST JUDGMENT, RONN FAVORED TAKING COURSE WHICH WOULD ALLOW ARABS TO SPEAK FIRST AND PERMIT OTHERS THEREAFTER TO RESPOND ACCORDINGLY. IF ARABS ARE HIGHLY ABUSIVE, GOVERNING BODY COULD THEN HEAR "BALANCING" STATEMENTS. IF ARABS ARE RESTRAINED AND PROPOSE NO SPECIFIC ACTION (AS DIRECTOR GENERAL PREDICTS WILL BE THEIR STANCE) RONN BELIEVES BEST POSSIBLE COURSE WOULD BE FOR SOMEONE (PREFERABLY US) TO MAKE STOUT ENOUGH STATEMENT TO DRAW EXCHANGE BACK TOWARDS THE CENTER, BUT ONE CALCULATED ALSO TO PERMIT OUTCOME WHEREBY DIRECTOR GENERAL WOULD BE ALLOWED TO PROCEED WITH CONTINUING INVESTIGATION IN CALM FASHION.

3. WE ASSURED HIM HIS VIEWS WOULD BE TAKEN CAREFULLY INTO ACCOUNT, AND AGREED TO KEEP IN CLOSE CONTACT AS COVERING BODY ENTERS ITS FINAL DAY.

4. COMMENT: ON BASIS OF DISCUSSION HERE WE BELIEVE APPROACH SUGGESTED BY RONN IS MOST APPROPRIATE ONE GIVEN SPECIAL NATURE AND HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE AND LIMITED LEVERAGE WE HAVE TO EXERCISE UPON IT BECAUSE OF THIS. AS GUIDANCE CONTAINED REFTTEL DOES NOT ADDRESS POSSIBLE OUTCOME NOW ENVISAGED, AND EVIDENTLY FAVORED, BY RONN, RECOMMEND DEL BE AUTHORIZED TO ACQUIESCE IN SUCH OUTCOME IF PRE-REQUISITE SITUATION (PARA 2 ABOVE) PREVAILS. DALE

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